

Message Text

SECRET

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S/S-O: P.P. SARROS

DOD/ISA - GEN. SUMNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T STATE 153923

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MU, SA

SUBJ: VISIT BY DOD OFFICER TO OMAN AND SAUDI ARABIA

REF: JIDDA 3263

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR MAKING COL. FIFER AVAILABLE FOR
MALONEY MISSION.

2. WHEN YOU RAISE MALONEY VISIT WITH MODA PRINCE SULTAN,
YOU SHOULD NOT RPT NOT TAKE INITIATIVE TO SUGGEST THERE
DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN MALONEY MISSION AND PROBLEM OF
STRENGTHENING YAR. MALONEY IS MAKING TRIP FOR FACT
FINDING PURPOSES RELATED PRIMARILY TO SITUATION IN OMAN AND
ON SAUDI BORDER WITH YAR AND PDRY. WE PREFER MALONEY NOT
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ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS OF MILITARY SALES PROGRAMS. WE

WOULD EXPECT MALONEY TO IMPART TO SAUDIS IMPRESSIONS OF WHAT HE HAS SEEN BUT AVOID GETTING INTO SPECIFICS OF SAUDI-US ROLES IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO OMAN AND YAR.

3. WE RECOGNIZE, OF COURSE, THAT SULTAN MAY WELL RAISE YEMEN IN CONNECTION WITH MALONEY MISSION. IF HE DOES, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT MISSION HAS SPECIAL FOCUS TO GAIN FIRST-HAND IMPRESSIONS OF PDY THREAT TO OMAN AND SECURITY SITUATION ALONG SAUDI BORDERS. USG RECOGNIZES THIS ONLY PART OF TOTAL PROBLEM WHICH ALSO INVOLVES PDY THREAT TO NORTH YEMEN ON WHICH WE CONTINUING HAVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH SAUDIS. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT DATT COL. FIFER, WHO NOW ALSO ACCREDITED TO YAR, WILL BE MAKING VISIT THERE SOON, AND THAT JUDGMENTS WE HOPE OBTAIN OF PDY THREAT FROM THIS AND ALL OTHER AVAILABLE SOURCES WILL GIVE USG BETTER BASIS MAKE INFORMED JUDGMENTS FOR AMBASSADOR TO PASS ON TO PRINCE SULTAN IN COURSE OUR CONTINUING DIALOGUE RE OUR RESPECTIVE ROLES IN ACHIEVING JOINT OBJECTIVE OF STRENGTHENING FRIENDS IN PENINSULA AND GULF AGAINST PDY THREAT TO THEIR SECURITY AND STABILITY.

4. MALONEY IS WELL BRIEFED ON ASPECTS OF "OPERATION TRIANGLE" AND REPORT PREPARED BY GENERAL QABBANI WITH ASSISTANCE OF USMTM ADVISORS SO THAT MALONEY MAY CONVEY DOD INITIAL VIEWS TO AMBASSADOR. HOWEVER, WE PREFER KEEP INTERGOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSION OF THIS COMPLICATED OPERATION IN EXISTING DIPLOMATIC/USMTM CHANNELS AND DO NOT WISH MALONEY TO GET INTO THIS SUBJECT WITH PRINCE SULTAN. ROGERS

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